CLAIMS

The invention claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

providing a porous mass rod that comprises a plurality of active particles and binder particles bound together at a plurality of contact points;

providing a filter rod that does not have the same composition as the porous mass rod;

cutting the porous mass rod and the filter rod into porous mass sections and filter sections, respectively;

forming a desired abutting configuration that comprises a plurality of sections, the plurality of sections comprising at least some of the porous mass sections and at least some of the filter sections;

securing the desired abutting configuration with a paper wrapper so as to yield a segmented filter rod length; and

cutting the segmented filter rod length into segmented filter rods;

wherein the steps of forming, securing, and cutting are performed so as to produce the segmented filter rods at a rate of about 25 m/min or greater.

2. A method comprising:

providing a porous mass rod that comprises a plurality of active particles and binder particles bound together at a plurality of contact points;

providing a filter rod that does not have the same composition as the porous mass rod;

cutting the porous mass rod and the filter rod into porous mass sections and filter sections, respectively;

forming a desired abutting configuration that comprises a plurality of sections, the plurality of sections comprising at least some of the porous mass sections and at least some of the filter sections;

securing the desired abutting configuration with an adhesive so as to yield a segmented filter rod length; and

cutting the segmented filter rod length into segmented filter rods;

wherein the steps of forming, securing, and cutting are performed so as to produce the segmented filter rods at a rate of about 25 m/min or greater.

3. A segmented filter rod produced by the process of:

providing a plurality of porous mass sections that comprise a plurality of active particles and binder particles bound together at a plurality of contact points;

providing a plurality of filter sections that does not have the same composition as the porous mass sections;

forming a desired abutting configuration that comprises a plurality of sections, the plurality of sections comprising at least one of the porous mass sections and at least one of the filter sections;

securing the desired abutting configuration with an adhesive so as to yield a segmented filter rod length;

cutting the segmented filter rod length into segmented filter rods;

cutting the segmented filter rods into segmented filter;

wherein the steps of forming, securing, and cutting the segmented filter rod length are performed so as to produce the segmented filter rods at a rate of about 25 m/min or greater.

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising :

providing a wrapped porous mass rod that comprises a plurality of active particles and binder particles bound together at a plurality of sintered contact points, where the wrapped porous mass rod is wrapped by papers, plastics, or films, to reduce damage and particulate production due to the mechanical manipulation of the wrapped porous masses;

providing a filter rod that does not have the same composition as the wrapped porous mass rod;

cutting the wrapped porous mass rod and the filter rod into wrapped porous mass sections and filter sections, respectively;

forming a desired abutting configuration that comprises a plurality of sections, the plurality of sections comprising at least some of the wrapped porous mass sections and at least some of the filter sections;

securing the desired abutting configuration with a paper wrapper so as to yield a segmented filter rod length; and

cutting the segmented filter rod length into segmented filter rods;

wherein the steps of forming, securing, and cutting are performed so as to produce the segmented filter rods at a rate of about 25 m/min or greater.

2. A method comprising :

providing a wrapped porous mass rod that comprises a plurality of active particles and binder particles bound together at a plurality of sintered contact points, where the wrapped porous mass rod is wrapped by papers, plastics, or films, to reduce damage and particulate production due to the mechanical manipulation of the wrapped porous masses;

providing a filter rod that does not have the same composition as the wrapped porous mass rod;

cutting the wrapped porous mass rod and the filter rod into wrapped porous mass sections and filter sections, respectively;

forming a desired abutting configuration that comprises a plurality of sections, the plurality of sections comprising at least some of the wrapped porous mass sections and at least some of the filter sections;

securing the desired abutting configuration with an adhesive so as to yield a segmented filter rod length; and

cutting the segmented filter rod length into segmented filter rods;

wherein the steps of forming, securing, and cutting are performed so as to produce the segmented filter rods at a rate of about 25 m/min or greater.

3. A segmented filter rod by the process of:

providing a wrapped porous mass rod that comprises a plurality of active particles and binder particles bound together at a plurality of sintered contact points, where the wrapped porous mass rod is wrapped by papers, plastics, or films, to reduce damage and particulate production due to the mechanical manipulation of the wrapped porous masses;

providing a plurality of filter sections that does not have the same composition as the wrapped porous mass sections;

forming a desired abutting configuration that comprises a plurality of sections, the plurality of sections comprising at least one of the wrapped porous mass sections and at least one of the filter sections;

securing the desired abutting configuration with an adhesive so as to yield a segmented filter rod length;

cutting the segmented filter rod length into segmented filter rods;

cutting the segmented filter rods into segmented filter;

wherein the steps of forming, securing, and cutting the segmented filter rod length are performed so as to produce the segmented filter rods at a rate of about 25 m/min or greater.